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CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1959

ROSETTA HILL, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

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Health Department,
Council Offices,
Medomsley Road,
Consett,
Co. Durham.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CONSETT URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report for the year 1959.

It has been a satisfactory year with the incidence of infectious disease low, apart from an epidemic of measles.

The most outstanding items in the vital statistics are a marked fall in the infantile mortality rate and in the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified. For the first time on record there were no deaths due to tuberculosis. The birthrate and deathrate have fallen ; there were no of diphtheria cases or poliomyelitis notified and no maternal deaths.

The investigation into the still-births and infant deaths which was started four years ago by my predecessor Dr. Ludkin continued during the year. The value of this survey cannot be over-estimated. Each case is investigated in detail and as far as possible a post-mortem examination is carried out in all cases. The close liasion established between this department, the general practitioners, midwives and hospital staff is a valuable means of ascertaining the avoidable factors contributing to still-births and infant deaths.

Whilst much has been accomplished in reducing the incidence of infectious disease in recent years, there is no reason for complacency, particularly in the field of tuberculosis where there is still a problem, mostly in older people. There are now more hospital beds in this country occupied by patients suffering from tuberculosis than all other infectious diseases put together.

Nevertheless the emphasis in public health to-day is on mental health. In this sphere there is very wide scope on the preventive side, especially amongst mothers and young children and much could be accomplished in the maternity and child welfare services. Promotion of mental health in childhood may go a long way in the prevention of mental illness in later life.

I should like to express my appreciation of the help and co-operation given by my colleagues—the general practitioners, hospital medical officers and the County medical staff.

In conclusion I wish to thank the members of the Council for their support and their interest in all matters relating to public health and pay tribute to the loyal co-operation which I have received from all members of the staff.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

ROSETTA HILL,
Medical Officer of Health.

I. GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS RELATING TO THE CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT

Area (Acres)	10,042
Population (Estimated)	38,940
(i) Estimated number of children :—	
Under 5 years	3,200
5-14 years	6,500
Marriages in the Area during 1959 (Estimated)	271
Number of Inhabited houses	11,751
(i) Number of Aged Miners' Homes	56
(ii) Number of Council Aged Persons' Homes	235
(iii) Number of Council houses	3,384
(iv) Number of Houses and Shops combined	138
(v) Number of Lock-up Shops	301
(vi) Number of Occupied Houses under Closing or Demolition Orders	Nil
(vii) Estimated number of Houses unfit for human habitation	133
Rateable Value, April 1st., 1959	£560,743
Net Product of a Penny Rate April 1st., 1959	£2,261

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS

	Males	Females	Totals
(i) Iron and Steel Manufacture, etc.	4,832	319	5,151
(ii) Mining	4,936	100	5,036
(iii) Building & Civil Engineering	1,371	20	1,391
(iv) Professional Services (Medicine Education)	404	1,214	1,618
(v) Distributive	476	930	1,406
(vi) Transport (Road, Rail Haulage)	905	230	1,135
(vii) Chemicals, Bye-products, Coke Tar	423	20	443
(viii) Vehicle building and Maintenance	271	40	311
(ix) Catering, Baking, etc.	128	258	386
(x) National & Local Government	400	61	461
(xi) Textile & Clothing	4	116	120
(xii) Other Industries & Miscellaneous Services	1,602	796	2,398
	<u>15,752</u>	<u>4,104</u>	<u>19,856</u>

Due to an extension in the area covered by the Consett Employment Exchange the above figures now include small numbers of employable persons in the Lanchester, Hexham, Weardale Rural and Blaydon Urban Districts. It has been found impossible to extract figures for the Consett Urban District alone, and therefore, the statistics cannot be accurately compared with those given in previous reports.

UNEMPLOYED AND DISABLED

	Males	Females	Totals
(i) Employable Persons out of work at the end of 1959	304	126	430
(ii) Persons registered as Disabled	788	69	857
(iii) Percentage of Registered Disabled who were on the Tuberculosis Register			4.9
(iv) Disabled persons trained	2	1	3
(v) No. of persons who have had special rehabilitation during 1959	10	3	13
(vi) No. of T.B. persons who have had special rehabilitation during 1959	—	2	2
(vii) Tuberculosis persons trained during 1959 ..	1	1	2
(viii) No. of Registered Blind Persons			63
(ix) No. of Partially Sighted Persons			23
(x) No. of Registered Physically Handicapped Persons	20	23	43
(xi) No. of Registered Deaf and Dumb Persons ..	11	11	22
(xii) No. of Registered Hard of Hearing Persons ..	2	1	3

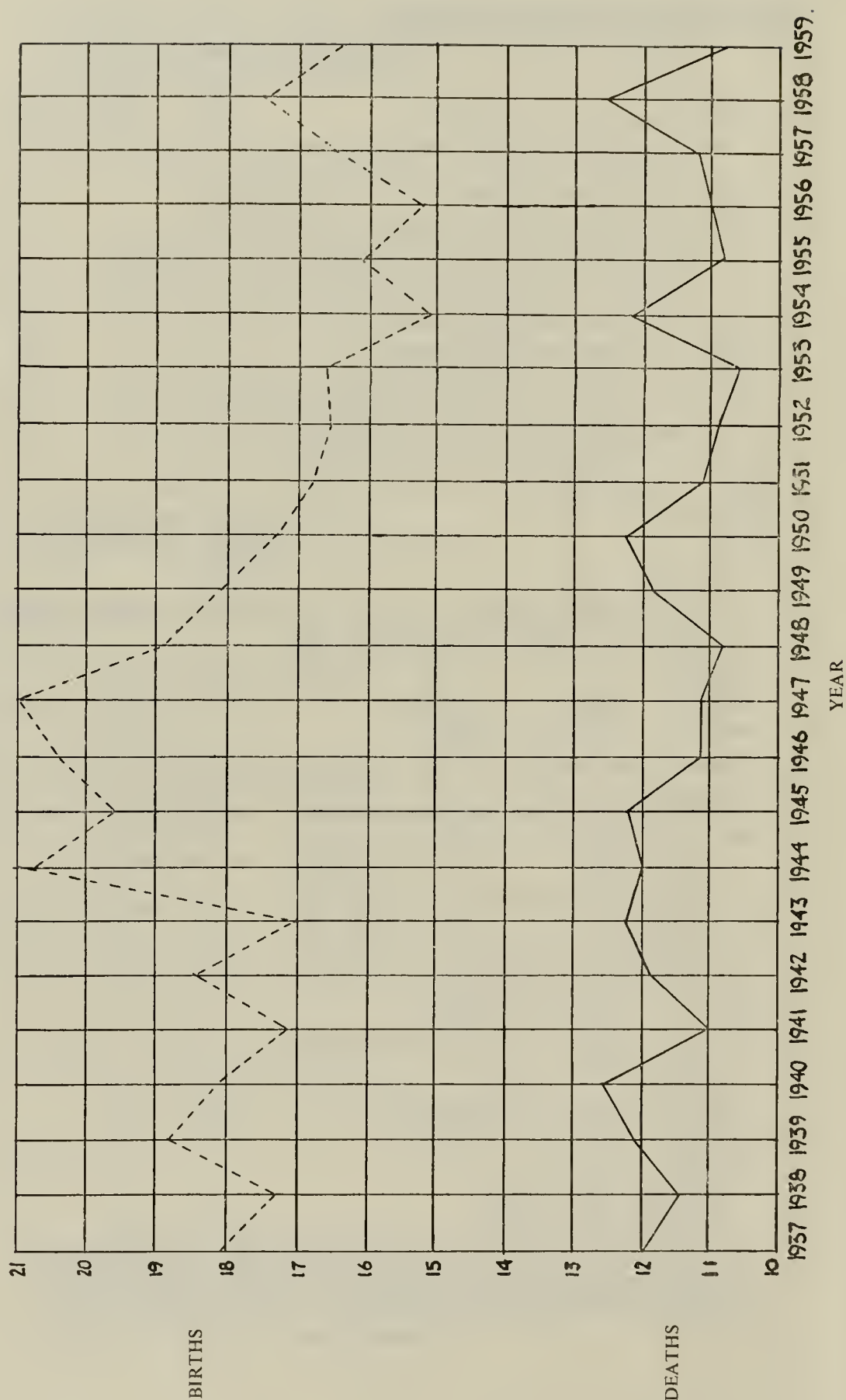
VITAL STATISTICS

	England and Wales	County	Consett
Live Births : 640			
Rate per 1,000 population	16.5	18.0	16.4
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	—	3.2	2.9
Stillbirths : 16			
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ..	21.0	23.5	24.3
Total Live and Stillbirths : 656			
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year) : 18			
Infant Mortality Rates			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	22.2 *	27.0	28.1
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 total legitimate live births	—	26.6	27.3
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 total illegitimate live births	—	29.8	52.6
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	15.8 *	19.1	21.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	—	16.0	15.6
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	34.2 *	39.1	39.6
Maternal Mortality (including abortion) : Nil			
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ..	0.38*	0.59	—
Deaths : 423			
Rate per 1,000 population	11.6 *	10.9	10.8
Tuberculosis Deaths : Nil			
Rate per 1,000 population	0.08*	0.11	—

The standardised birth and death rates for the area, *i.e.*, rates calculated in such a way that allowances are made for the age and sex composition of the population were 16.2 and 13.7 respectively.

* *Provisional figures.*

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION SINCE THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PRESENT URBAN AREA



DETAILED VITAL STATISTICS

(See Appendix A)

BIRTHS

					Males	Females	Total
(a) Live Births							
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	298	323	621
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	7	12	19
					<u>305</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>640</u>
(b) Still Births							
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	8	8	16
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
					<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>16</u>

DEATHS

					Males	Females	Totals
Deaths during the year	..	..	..	..	234	189	423
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	..	..	..	..	—	—	—

(a) Infant Deaths

The number of infant deaths during the year was 18 (28.1 per 1,000 live births) as compared with 28 (41.0 per 1,000 live births) in the previous year. Ten of these occurred in the first week of life. The infantile mortality rate can be regarded as a good index of the health of the community and in this area the rate has fallen considerably in recent years, except for last year when there was a sharp rise. This year, however, the rate has fallen again although it is still higher than County Durham (27.0) and England and Wales (22.2).

A big proportion of infant deaths occur in the first week of life and the surest way of cutting down the infantile mortality rate is by concentrating on the prevention of these deaths.

It is estimated that perinatal deaths (still-births and infant deaths in the first week of life) account for 80 per cent of the total loss of infant life from the 28th week of pregnancy to the end of the first year. Perinatal mortality is thus an obstetric problem in which there are many avoidable factors. Of the greatest importance in this connection is adequate and thorough ante-natal care of all expectant mothers, with a careful selection of cases for hospital so that the best possible use is made of the available maternity beds. It is necessary to ensure that all non-attenders at the ante-natal clinics should be followed up and advised.

Health education should form an important part of all ante-natal care so that the expectant mother receives expert instruction in maintaining her own health during pregnancy and labour and in caring for the new-born infant.

This will be the fourth year during which a detailed investigation of perinatal deaths (still-births and deaths in the first week of life) has been carried out in the Stanley and Consett urban districts. Each case of perinatal death is investigated in detail and this involves securing an adequate case history. All obstetric details are obtained from the general practitioner, midwife, local authority clinic and maternity hospital and as far as possible a post-mortem examination is carried out in each case. The midwives are responsible for conveying to the pathologist all still-births and infant deaths occurring in domiciliary practice. Of the 26 perinatal deaths which took place last year all except one (a stillbirth) had post-mortem examinations by a pathologist.

This investigation is of the greatest value in that it attempts to find out the exact cause of death in each case and shows the obstetric condition associated with it. The liaison between the general practitioners, midwives the maternity hospital and this department ensures co-operation between the doctors and midwives involved and in this way steps can be taken to eliminate avoidable factors in such cases.

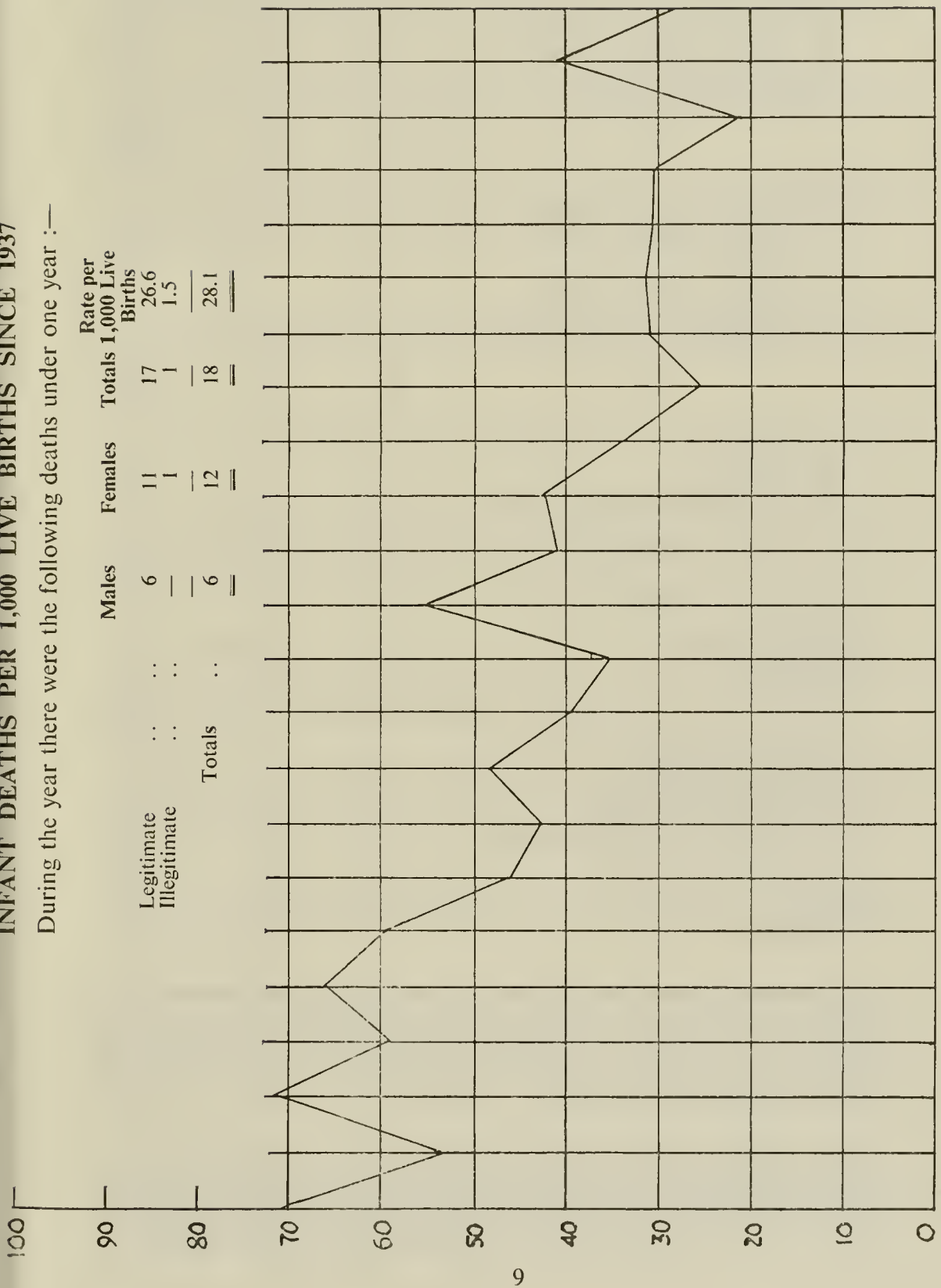
Analysis of Infant Deaths during First Year of Life (1959)

Cause.	Under 1 week.	1 to 4 weeks.	1 to 12 months.
Prematurity	6	1	1
Congenital malformations	2	—	2
Asphyxia	1	1	—
Broncho pneumonia	—	1	1
Meconium Peritonitis	1	—	—
Biliary Hepatic Abscess	—	1	—
	10	4	4

INFANT DEATHS PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS SINCE 1937

During the year there were the following deaths under one year :—

	Males	Females	Totals	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
Legitimate	..	11	17	26.6
Illegitimate	..	1	1	1.5
Totals	..	12	18	28.1



1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959.
YEAR

(b) Deaths (General)	Male	Female	Total
ALL CAUSES	234	189	423
1. Cardio vascular :—			
(a) Vascular lesions of nervous system	30	35	65
(b) Coronary disease	54	31	85
(c) Hypertension with heart disease ..	2	4	6
(d) Other heart diseases	21	19	40
(e) Other circulatory diseases ..	7	2	9
Totals	114	91	205
2. Cancer :—			
(a) Malignant Neoplasm, stomach ..	9	8	17
(b) Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	3	16
(c) Malignant Neoplasm, breast ..	—	7	7
(d) Malignant Neoplasm, uterus ..	—	5	5
(e) Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	26	25	51
Totals	48	48	96
3. Chest Diseases :—			
(a) Pneumonia	9	5	14
(b) Bronchitis	12	5	17
(c) Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4
Totals	24	11	35
4. Tuberculosis—all forms	—	—	—
5. Influenza	1	1	2
6. Syphilitic diseases	—	—	—
7. Leukaemia	5	—	5
8. Diabetes	5	2	7
9. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1	4
10. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	1	—	1
11. Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
12. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—	3
13. Congenital Malformations	1	5	6
14. Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ..	—	—	—
15. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	21	23	44
16. Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	3	4
17. All other Accidents	6	2	8
18. Suicide	—	1	1
19. Homicide	—	—	—

The main causes of death in the district during the year were diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, Cancer, Bronchitis and Pneumonia in that order of prevalence. It will be noted that there were 16 deaths from Carcinoma of the Lung, 13 of whom were males. In the previous year there were 15 deaths (14 males).

The incidence of lung cancer is increasing rapidly. It is now the most common form of cancer mortality, being responsible for over 20,000 deaths a year, predominately in men in the prime of life. It is generally known that there is the strongest evidence to show that the more cigarettes are

smoked the more liable one is to develop cancer of the lung and it has been shown that the incidence is much reduced in those who have previously smoked and given it up. In this connection there is a great need for health education of the school children to impress upon them the dangers of smoking and to advise them not to take up the habit.

The number of deaths from Coronary Thrombosis has decreased, 85 as compared with 92 in the previous year. Fiftyfour of the 85 deaths were males.

Much research is being carried out into the cause of this disease as there is an increasing incidence in the country as a whole. Many factors such as the stress of life, diet, insufficient exercise and smoking may be concerned in the causes.

During the year there were 12 accidents causing deaths of which 5 occurred in the home (3 of these being people over the age of 65 years), 3 occurred at work and 4 (aged 15, 43, 65 and 75 years) occurred on the roads.

It is a startling fact that home accidents cause more deaths than road accidents and greater attention is now being focused on their prevention.

The danger of fire comes first to one's mind and many fatal accidents could be avoided by the provision of a fireguard ; this should be recognised as essential, particularly in the case of children or old people. An additional safeguard is the use of flame resistant materials for clothing.

The danger of gas in the home is one that cannot be over-emphasized as every year numbers of old people die from accidental gas poisoning. Every effort should be directed to eliminate the risk by the fitting of safety taps and expert checking of the fittings.

A home accident which is now becoming more common is the poisoning of young children through eating drugs which they mistake for sweets. Great care should be taken in every home to see that all drugs are kept out of children's reach, preferably under lock and key.

The increasing number of accidents on the roads is now giving cause for concern and especially as one feels that so many could be prevented with a little more care.

It is interesting to speculate to what extent mental health may have a bearing on the accident rate. In this age when a big proportion of people consult their doctors on account of some mental trouble it is reasonable to assume that many whose minds are in a state of anxiety may be unable to give the necessary concentration to driving a car or crossing the road in safety.

On the physical side it seems that the element of fatigue in the motorist may be a big factor in the cause of accidents and whilst precautions are taken to avoid this in the case of the professional drivers, the private motorist does not always realize the importance of it.

II. HEALTH SERVICE IN THE AREA

A. Environmental Circumstances and Local Authority Services

Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health and County Area Medical Officer for Consett and Stanley Urban and Lanchester Rural District :

S. LUDKIN, M.D., B.S., D.P.H. Terminated Appointment 13th June, 1959.

ROSETTA HILL, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H. Appointed 1st September, 1959.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

H. WALTON, M.A.P.H.I., Registered Architect, Certificate S.I.B., and Meat Inspector's Certificate.

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

T. E. HODGSON, M.A.P.H.I., Certificate S.I.B., and Meat Inspectors' Certificate.

T. J. BURDUS, Certificate S.I.B., and Meat Inspectors' Certificate.

Pupil Public Health Inspectors:

D. HUBBICK

B. ARMSTRONG (Attending Salford "Sandwich" Course).

Rodent Officer and Market Inspector:

S. ROBINSON, Retired, 16th September, 1959.

R. URWIN, Appointed 3rd November, 1959.

Clerical Staff:

MISS P. E. BARROW, MRS. E. WINTER, MISS M. VICKERS, (Terminated appointment 2nd May, 1959). MISS J. A. BRAMLEY, Appointed 4th August, 1959.

With the Council's approval the Surveyor kindly continued to arrange for a member of his staff to carry out most of the inspections connected with housing improvement grants and granting of petroleum and carbide licences. This was of considerable help to us in ensuring that the more essential inspectorate duties of the Department were attended to.

(a) GENERAL

Water. The Sunderland and South Shields Water Company and Durham County Water Board have now appointed a contractor for the construction of the new Derwent Reservoir and preliminary work has commenced. This reservoir is to be situated in the Derwent Valley below the village of Edmundbyers and some seven miles from Consett.

Sampling of water has been carried out during the year and the bacteriological quality has been satisfactory. One sample was described as of satisfactory organic purity judged by chemical analysis.

During the year the Board laid over 1,000 yards of new 3-in. and 4-in. asbestos cement mains to distribute water in the Area and an expansive programme of scraping and cross-connecting trunk mains has been carried out to improve the reliability of supply.

Five houses and a weekend cottage rely on spring water; most of these show fairly constant contamination and the occupants are warned to boil all water before it is used for drinking purposes.

DETAILS OF SPRING SUPPLIES

Ward	No. of		Type of Supply				Method of Distribution				
	Houses	Occu- pants	Public	Private	Spring	Well	Carried	Gravi- tation Piped	Pumped	House Service Inside	Out
Medomsley ..	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
Ebchester	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Consett South	2	4	—	2	2	—	—	2	—	1	1
Leadgate ..	2	3	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
TOTALS ...	6	11	—	6	6	—	3	3	—	2	4

Eleven samples were forwarded to the Bateriaologist and results graded in accordance with the Ministry of Health Report, “The Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies, 1949” are as follows:—

	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Total
Public Water Supply ..	2	—	—	—	2
Other Sources of Supply (Springs, Wells, etc.)	4	1	3	1	9
Totals	6	1	3	1	11

Drainage and Sewage. Sewage disposal works are situated at Ebchester, Crookhall, Pont Burn and Knitsley. The latter is an entirely new plant, the adjoining existing works having now been demolished. New sludge lagoons have been installed at the Crookhall Sewage Works.

Part reconstruction of a culvert carrying sewage at Blackhill has been carried out by inserting 24-in. concrete pipes, and an extension of the drainage system to additions and reconstruction of the Consett Technical College.

Sanitary Conveniences

The types of closet in use in the Council’s Area are as follows :—

Water-closets	13,406
Ash-closets	79
Privy Middens	8

Atmospheric Pollution

The Clean Air Act Building Byelaws for compulsory installation of smokeless heating and cooking appliances for all new buildings is now in force. One firm was granted a year's temporary exemption certificate under Section 2 of the Act in respect of two coal-fired furnaces, locomotives and steam cranes, and a furnace at a foundry.

The recording of atmospheric pollution by means of four deposit gauges is still being carried out and there are now records for the past six years. Five sulphur dioxide gauges have now been used for five years.

As yet, there are no proposals for the formation of smoke control areas.

Prevention of Damage by Pests

During the year, 937 inspections were made to private dwellings, business premises, Local Authority's properties and agricultural premises. (*See Appendix C*).

The maintenance treatments of sewers and sewage disposal works were completed at two six-monthly intervals as required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. During the first treatment in April, 151 man-holes were pre-baited and poisoned, and 19 were found to be infested. In the November treatment, 58 manholes were treated and 16 were found to be infested.

Treatments to sewage disposal works and pump houses were also carried out during the second treatment to the sewers and minor infestations were found at three sewage works. (*See Appendix D*).

Disinfestation

Fifty-four houses were treated for the eradication of bed bugs, insects, beetles, etc.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

During the year, one licence for the keeping of pet animals was issued and routine inspections were carried out.

(b) HOUSING AND FACTORIES

(i) General

During the year, the following Council houses were erected:—

Locality	Two Bedroomed	Three Bedroomed	Total
Shotley Bridge	2	8	10
Delves Lane	2	44	46
Moorside	2	18	20
	6	70	76

In addition, certificates of completion were issued in relation to 81 private houses.

Since the war a total of 2,430 houses have been completed in the district:—

						Council Houses	Private
1946	..	..	..	..	..	58	10
1947	..	..	..	..	..	238	16
1948	..	..	..	..	..	268	29
1949	..	..	..	..	..	195	12
1950	..	..	..	..	..	134	13
1951	..	..	..	..	..	109	12
1952	..	..	..	..	..	116	12
1953	..	..	..	..	..	146	29
1954	..	..	..	..	..	170	35
1955	..	..	..	..	..	136	35
1956	..	..	..	..	..	107	47
1957	..	..	..	..	..	130	58
1958	..	..	..	..	..	104	54
1959	..	..	..	..	..	76	81
						<u>1,987</u>	<u>443</u>

(ii) Improvement Grants

One hundred and five preliminary applications were made for improvement grants during the year, as provided by the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, and the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

To date, 151 applications to the Council have been made and of these, 109 have been completed and the properties brought up to the necessary standard.

(iii) Houses Unfit for Human Habitation

Individual

Six demolition orders and two closing orders were made.

Clearance Areas

WOOD STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE, CLEARANCE AREA No. 1, 1957. Of the original 14 houses, 8 were demolished by the owners and the remaining 6 were dealt with by the Council.

EAST VIEW, TEMPLETOWN, CLEARANCE AREA, 1958. The 15 houses in this area were partly demolished by their owners and the Council had to complete the work.

WOOD STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE, CLEARANCE AREA, 1958. Only 2 of the 19 houses were demolished by the owners, the remainder being demolished by the Council.

In the above three clearance areas, great difficulty was experienced in having the houses demolished and agreements were made with the various owners for the Council to employ a contractor to demolish the houses and clear the sites, in return for which these owners would give their lands to the Council.

PLANTATION STREET, LEADGATE, COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER, 1959. All the tenants in these 9 houses have been rehoused and the houses have been demolished.

WALTON'S ROW, BLACKHILL, COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER, 1959. The tenants in the 16 houses have been rehoused and the houses have been demolished.

BACKSTONE BURN, BLACKHILL, CLEARANCE AREA, 1959. The tenants of these 9 houses have all been rehoused but no demolition work has been carried out.

A survey has been made of a proposed clearance area in Wood Street, Shotley Bridge. This will be submitted to the Council in the New Year and if confirmed, would result in the demolition of the whole of Wood Street, except for 2 houses which would be dealt with at a later date.

During the year, 51 families, a total of 175 persons, were rehoused by the Council.

(iv) Closing and Demolition of Houses

A. Formal Action

(i) Number of houses demolished during year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action	92
(ii) Number of houses closed but not demolished as a result of formal action	2
(iii) Number of houses in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses demolition of which temporarily postponed	—
(iv) Number of houses in use as temporary accommodation	—

B. Informal Action

(i) Number of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above	—
--	---

(v) Reconditioning and Repair

Number of houses made fit during year by procedure under Housing Acts (excluding temporary accommodation) or Public Health Acts :	
(a) As a result of informal action	31
(b) By owners as a result of statutory notice	—
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

(vi) Rent Act, 1957 — Certificates of Disrepair

The following is a statement of applications and subsequent action taken under the Rent Act :—

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

(1) Number of applications for certificates	3
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	—
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates	3
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	3
(b) in respect of all defects	—
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	2
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	—
(6) Number of Certificates issued	1

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority, for cancellation of certificates	2
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	—
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	—
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	2

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269

Tents, Vans and Sheds. There are no caravan sites in this district. Two temporary licences, each of three months duration, were issued, granting permission to site caravans.

Factories

One hundred and fifty one visits were made to factories in which persons were employed. (*See Appendix E*).

Outworkers. Two persons were notified as being outworkers.

(c) GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Analysis of inspections and notices served under the Public Health and Housing Acts :—

	Inspections	No. of INFORMAL Notices served	No. of STATUTORY Notices served	Defects remedied after Notice
Housing :				
Public Health and Housing Acts ..	1,802	125	1	106
Overcrowding	12	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient	1	—	—	—
Defective	85	69	—	16
Drainage	343	108	—	101
Water Supply	28	4	—	4
Food Premises	657	93	—	69
Shops Act	—	—	—	—
Dairies	—	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses :				
Public	—	—	—	—
Private	2,371	94	—	64
Tents, Vans, etc.	53	12	—	10
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Factories & Workplaces	151	11	—	9
Keeping of Animals	55	17	—	5
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles ..	389	389	—	389
Offensive accumulations	77	21	—	21
Smoke Nuisances	136	18	—	10
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	937	134	—	134
Notifiable Diseases	678	—	—	—
Deposit Gauges	216	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	241	71	—	54
Totals	8,232	1,166	1	992

(d) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(i) General

Six hundred and fifty seven inspections were carried out to the 363 premises in which food is manufactured, stored or sold. Appendix F gives details of various types of premises visited and the circumstances found which warranted notices being served to conform with the appropriate Acts and Byelaws.

One case of food being sold in contravention of Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 (not of the nature, substance or quality of the food demanded by the purchaser) was referred to the Food and Drugs Department at Durham County Council and legal proceedings were instituted at Consett Magistrates Court, the defendant being found guilty and a fine imposed.

(ii) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

The following were on the register at the 31st December, 1959 :—

Distributors	82
----------------------	----

(iii) Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

The following licences were issued during the year under review :—

Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Tuberculin Tested "	
with regard to raw milk	2
Supplementary Licences (Tuberculin Tested Milk)	2

(iv) Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949

The following licences were issued during the year under review :—

Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Pasteurised "	..	38
Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Sterilised "	.. ..	56
Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) "	.. .. .	36
Dealers' Supplementary Licence to use the special designation " Pasteurised "	.. .. .	1
Dealers' Supplementary Licence to use the special designation " T.T. (Pasteurised) "	.. .. .	1
Dealers' Supplementary Licence to use the special designation " Sterilised "	.. .. .	1

(v) Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Routine inspections were carried out at all premises used for the manufacture, sale and storage of food.

The following premises were registered under the Act :—

Ice Cream manufacture	8
Ice Cream Sale and Storage	139
Preparation or Manufacture of Sausages, Potted or Pressed Food ..	38
Preparation or Manufacture of Fish and Potatoes	14

In addition there are the following premises :—

Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Shops :—								
General Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Green Fruit	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Confectionery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
Wet Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Licensed Premises (Hotels, Public Houses, Inns)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

Appendix F gives the number of notices served and the defects remedied.

(vi) Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947 and 1948

All premises used for the manufacture and storage of ice cream were regularly inspected and a very high standard of hygiene has been maintained. Periodic sampling provided the following satisfactory results.

Ice Cream Sample Results :—

					No. of Samples
Grade I	..	..	..	..	45
Grade II	..	..	..	..	1
Grade III	..	..	..	..	—
Grade IV	..	..	..	..	2
Total				..	48

(vii) Meat and Other Foods

SLAUGHTERHOUSES—Two thousand three hundred and seventy one visits have been made to the eleven privately owned slaughterhouses situated at Consett, Blackhill, Shotley Bridge and Broomhill, Ebchester. Over 2,000 more animals were slaughtered than in the preceeding year. A modern slaughterhouse at Broomhill, Ebchester, although not being used to its full capacity, is now supplying meat wholesale. There is still approximately 30 per cent of the meat consumed in the Area being supplied from other sources outside this Urban District. Two of the slaughterhouses have only been used intermittently, and one of these will not be applying for a licence in the forthcoming year.

The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958, have been discussed with all the slaughterhouse owners and in each case a request has been made to submit their proposals for conforming with these Regulations.

Condemned meats are stained in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations and disposal is arranged by a by-product firm on Tyneside who specialise in this type of work.

Altogether 10,146 animals were slaughtered during the year.

				Animals slaughtered from Collecting Centres
Bulls	..	..	..	—
Bullocks	..	..	..	685
Cows	..	..	..	15
Heifers	..	..	..	1,157
Calves	..	..	..	14
Sheep	..	..	..	5,986
Pigs	..	..	..	2,289
Totals				10,146

Food found to be unfit for human consumption :—

1,215 tins Meat	10 bottles Pickles, Sauces, etc.
776 tins Fruit	23 jars Jam
357 tins Vegetables	2 jars Sandwich Paste
201 tins Tomatoes	12 pkts. Flour
83 tins Milk	12 pkts. Cheese
66 tins Fish	3 pkts. Biscuits
51 tins Soup	1 pkt. Cereal
34 tins Ham	1 pkt. Confectionery
29 tins Pudding	1 pkt. Suet
28 tins Fruit Juice	
6 tins Syrup	

The total weight condemned was 1 ton 11 cwts. 2 qrs. 13 lbs.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 and Amendment Act, 1954

There were 45 licensed slaughtermen on the register at the end of the year.

Market Square

This market operates on Fridays and Saturdays and approximately forty stalls, including greengrocery, confectionery and a butcher's van are stationed there. These vans are all of a good type and do comply with the regulations of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

(e) PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

There were 1,054 cases of notifiable diseases during the year compared with 123 last year.

For analysis of notified and confirmed cases of notifiable diseases see Appendix B.

Laboratory Facilities

These continue to be provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Newcastle General Hospital.

All specimens for animal inoculation are sent to the laboratory attached to the General Hospital, Newcastle.

The service of the Public Health Laboratory has continued to be used extensively by General Practitioners.

Year	Specimens Submitted	Positive
1947	111	32
1948	54	18
1949	71	14
1950	99	35
1951	64	22
1952	431	83
1953	1,325	484
1954	773	175
1955	589	81
1956	584	83
1957	433	21
1958	536	21
1959	1,050	156

The following table gives particulars of specimens sent in by the Health Department and the Medical Practitioners in the Area for examination during the year :—

Bacteriological Examinations

	Number of Specimens Submitted	Positive
Faeces :		
(a) Enteric Fever	—	—
(b) Dysentery	667	142
(c) Food Poisoning	—	4
(d) Other Organisms	—	—
Swabs (Throat, Nasal and Ear) :		
(a) Diphtheria	—	—
(b) Haemolytic Streptococci	—	—
(c) Other Organisms	—	—
Sputum for Tuberculosis	320	10
Water	11	—
Ice Cream	48	—
Miscellaneous	4	—
Totals	1,050	156

During the year all infectious diseases needing hospitalisation were admitted to Chester-le-Street Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Notifiable Diseases reported during the year 1959

The following table gives particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in the Area during the year :—

Diseases	Total Number of Cases Notified	Total Number of Cases Confirmed	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	22	22	—	—
Whooping Cough	108	108	—	—
Measles	832	832	—	—
Pneumonia	6	6	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	145	3	—	—
Dysentery	80	81	5	—
Erysipelas	1	1	—	—
	1,195	1,054	5	—

Scarlet Fever. There were 22 cases notified compared with 6 last year. The infections were mild in type, none were admitted to hospital and there were no deaths.

Measles. There was an epidemic of measles during the year. Altogether 832 cases were notified and of these 460 were under the age of 5 years. In the previous year there were 26 cases notified (22 under the age of 5 years). There were no cases admitted to hospital nor were there any deaths.

Whooping Cough. One hundred and eight cases were notified throughout the area compared with 58 in the previous year. The increased incidence underlines the need for immunisation of greater numbers of children.

Whooping cough can still be a lethal disease in childhood, particularly in children under one year and every effort should be made to immunise those at risk. Immunisation to be most effective should be commenced at the age of three months and can be given either as whooping cough vaccine alone or as a vaccine combined with diphtheria. The County Council provide the general practitioners with both whooping cough vaccine and combined diphtheria—whooping cough antigen.

Poliomyelitis. No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was continued in the under 26 age group in addition to expectant mothers and special priority groups.

Since the inception of the scheme 4,702 had completed the course of three injections and 4,407 had received two injections.

In April the general practitioners first began to participate in this scheme and the numbers of record cards received from them are included in the above figures. They are as follows :—

2,503 primary injections
240 booster injections

Food Poisoning. During the year there were 3 isolated cases of food poisoning notified, the infecting organism in 2 of these cases was *Salmonella-typhimurium* and in the remaining case *Salmonella-thompson*.

Dysentery. There were 81 cases of sonne dysentery notified during the year. The disease was mild in nature with symptoms of short duration and the greatest incidence was in the summer months in children under 10 years. Five cases were admitted to hospital.

In November 2 cases of dysentery were notified from the Peile Convalescent Home and both cases—children aged 4 and 5 years—were removed to hospital. All admissions to the home were stopped and rectal swabs taken from all the inmates. There were 15 children (ages 1 to 5 years) 8 babies, 5 mothers, together with 14 nursing staff and 8 domestic staff. Of these, positive swabs were obtained from 11 children and 1 nurse. The mothers and babies with negative swabs were discharged home but the children with positive swabs were isolated and treated in the Home until they were free from infection. The nurse showing a positive swab was treated by her doctor in her own home and resumed duty when three consecutive negative swabs were obtained.

Diphtheria. No cases of this disease were notified during the year. The last case in the district occurred in 1952 and the last death in 1943. Nevertheless it must be remembered that this very satisfactory position has been achieved by immunisation and it can only be maintained by continuing to keep the immunity of the children at a high level. It is important to secure immunisation of not less than 75% of babies before their first birthday. At the end of the year only 49.2 per cent of children under 5 years of age had received the necessary injections within the last four years and only 14.4 per cent of school children could be considered to have adequate immunity. This is a dangerously low level should an epidemic occur.

The total numbers (all age groups) immunised during the year were as follows :—

Primary Injections	..	..	..	604
Boosters	..	..	..	256

Number of cases and deaths from Diphtheria since 1937 are as follows :—

						No. of Cases	No. of Deaths
1937	..	..	..	..	..	180	15
1938	..	..	..	..	..	154	14
1939	..	..	..	..	..	73	11
1940	..	..	..	..	..	10	3
1941	..	..	..	..	..	18	1
1942	..	..	..	..	..	18	2
1943	..	..	..	..	..	29	2
1944	..	..	..	..	..	33	—
1945	..	..	..	..	..	13	—
1946	..	..	..	..	..	14	—
1947	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
1948	..	..	..	..	..	2	—
1949	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
1950	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
1951	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
1952	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
1953-1959	..	..	..	..	..	—	—

Tuberculosis. Fewer new cases of tuberculosis were discovered this year than ever before. There were no deaths during the year for the first time on record. Although the decline in the number of new cases and deaths continues tuberculosis still remains a problem in the older age group of men. It is possible that most of the tuberculosis disease occurring in older people is the result of infection in earlier life which has remained dormant for many years.

It was not possible during the year to commence vaccinating the school leavers with B.C.G. but it is hoped to carry out a scheme of vaccination of school children 13 years old and upwards at the Secondary and Technical schools in the area early next year.

All the milk retailed in the area is now either heat treated in such a way that the tubercle bacilli are killed, or comes from herds that are free from this infection.

1. Statistics

						Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
(a) No. of new cases notified during the year:—								
Males	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	9
Females	..	..	..	..	..	9	2	11
						<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Totals		..	..	..		16	4	20
						<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(b) No. of deaths registered :—								
Males	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Females	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
						<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Totals		..	..	..		—	—	—
						<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(c) No. of cases on the Tuberculosis Register:—								
Males	..	..	..	..	..	172	88	260
Females	..	..	..	..	..	207	73	280
						<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Totals		..	..	..		379	161	540
						<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Age distribution of new cases and deaths are as follows :—

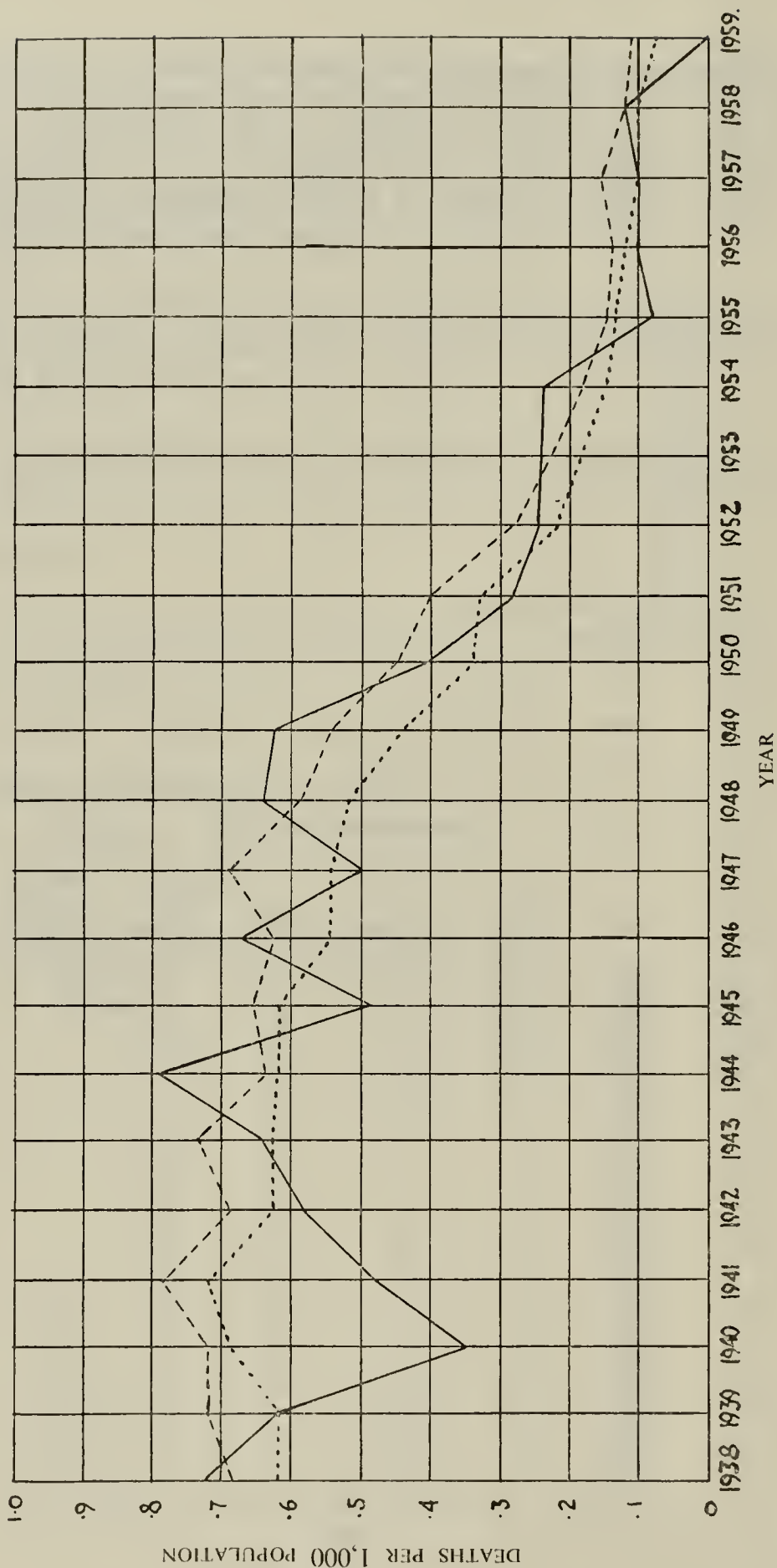
Age Period	CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
11-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16-20	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
21-25	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
26-30	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
31-35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36-40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
41-45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46-50	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
51-55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56-60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
61-65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
66-70	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
71-75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
76-80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	7	9	2	2	—	—	—	—
	16		4		—		—	
	20				—			

Cases and Deaths since 1937

Year	No. of Notifica-tions	Rate per 1,000 pop.	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 pop.	No. of Sanatoria Admiss-ions
1937	53	1.4	15	.51	
1938	49	1.3	27	.72	
1939	49	1.3	23	.66	
1940	39	1.0	13	.43	
1941	39	1.0	18	.51	
1942	39	1.0	12	.58	
1943	43	1.2	24	.67	
1944	77	2.1	18	.79	
1945	54	1.5	28	.48	
1946	47	1.2	17	.68	
1947	59	1.5	20	.50	
1948	72	1.8	22	.66	
1949	49	1.2	25	.61	
1950	91	2.3	11	.40	
1951	76	1.9	11	.28	
1952	47	1.2	10	.25	34
1953	40	1.0	10	.25	42
1954	38	0.97	10	.25	37
1955	26	0.67	3	.07	34
1956	34	0.87	4	.10	34
1957	30	0.77	4	.10	30
1958	23	0.59	5	.12	25
1959	20	0.51	—	—	23

COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY RATES 1938-1959

CONSETT U.D.C. _____
 DURHAM COUNTY -----
 ENGLAND & WALES



Tuberculosis Services in the Area

(i) At the Chest Clinic at Villa Real, there are special sessions for contacts of known cases of Tuberculosis, new and old cases and for artificial pneumothorax and pneumoperitoneum refills when considered necessary.

During the year 334 skin tests were carried out, 125 were positive and 209 were found to be negative. Fifty were vaccinated with B.C.G. The discrepancy between those found negative and those vaccinated is accounted for mainly by the fact that many were routine tests of non-contacts who do not qualify for B.C.G. vaccination.

(ii) Those needing sanatorium treatment are in the main admitted to Maiden Law Tuberculosis Unit ; those needing major surgical treatment being transferred to Seaham Hall, Poole or Wolsingham Sanatorium. During the year 23 cases of Tuberculosis were admitted for hospital treatment.

(iii) There were 540 patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year. Most newly notified cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis are now registered by the Ministry of Labour as disabled persons and before being allowed to return to work, the patient is assessed at the clinic, and if appropriate a course of industrial rehabilitation at the Felling Unit is arranged by the Disablement Resettlement Officer, after which in most cases suitable employment is found. All these patients are regularly supervised, a very close co-operation existing between the D.R.O. and the Chest Physician. During the year two patients attended the industrial rehabilitation unit.

(iv) After-care responsibility rests with the Durham County Council. Nursing requisites are stored in Durham.

(v) Three families were rehoused because of tuberculosis in a member of the family.

(vi) The Mass Radiography Unit visited Consett in May and October. Posters and leaflets were circulated throughout the area, special invitations being sent to certain groups of the population, e.g., those who have contact with a large number of adults or children, and the Secretaries of Old People's Clubs were asked to persuade their members to attend.

It is in this latter group that it is hoped to pick up the odd case of tuberculosis, particularly in men when the symptoms are thought to be due to chronic bronchitis or even regarded as a "smoker's cough".

It is important for all men over the age of 45 years and women between the ages of 15 and 25 years to have an annual X-ray of chest as it is in these age groups that the greatest incidence of chest disease is found.

The following are the detailed results of the two surveys :—

		Males	Females	Total
No. X-rayed				
(a) No. miniature films	.. ..	1,371	1,599	2,970
(b) No. large films	.. ..	—	—	—
(c) No. recalled for large films	.. ..	88	65	153
Abnormalities				
(a) Malignant Neoplasm	.. ..	1	—	1
(b) Tuberculosis—cases notified	.. ..	—	3	3
No. referred to Chest Clinic	.. ..	23	8	31

B. Local Health Authority Services

In 1948, the County Council adopted the Ministry approved scheme of dividing the Administrative County into Areas for each of which an Area Health Sub-Committee was appointed. Lanchester Rural, Consett Urban and Stanley Urban Districts, with a total population of approximately 102,000, comprise No. 3 Area, meetings of the Area Health Sub-Committee being held quarterly. The Area Office is situated at the Health Department, Council Offices, Tantobie.

The County Medical Officer has kindly agreed to the incorporation in this report of the statistics relating to the personal health services.

(a) Clinics

(i) Birth Control

Clinics for the above are held in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wetherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett, on alternate Tuesdays — 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

(ii) Ante and Post-Natal

Clinics for the above are held at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wetherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett as follows :—

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC—Tuesdays weekly 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

POST-NATAL CLINIC—Alternate Tuesdays 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

(iii) Child Welfare

Clinics are held as follows :—

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE, WETHERALL HOUSE, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT—Fridays all day.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HALL, BLACKHILL—Alternate Thursdays 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL, THE GROVE, CONSETT—Alternate Wednesdays, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon ; 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

(iv) Artificial Sunlight

Clinics for the above are held on the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wetherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett, on Tuesday and Friday weekly 1-30 p.m. to 2 p.m.

(v) *Immunisation and Vaccination*

This has been carried out at :—

- (a) Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics throughout the Area and
- (b) By General Practitioners by personal arrangement with parents.

When a child reaches the age of three months propaganda material is sent through the post to all parents. Details of facilities together with consent forms for smallpox vaccination and diphtheria and whooping cough immunisation are enclosed with this literature. When a child reaches the age of twelve months and 4 years 9 months, further propaganda pamphlets regarding diphtheria immunisation are sent.

Particulars of Immunisation and Vaccination during 1959

	Primary	Booster	Primary	Re. Vaccination
Diphtheria Immunisation ..	604	257	—	—
Whooping Cough Immunisation ..	593	48	—	—
Poliomyelitis Vaccination ..	4,146	3,603	—	—
Smallpox Vaccination .	—	—	318	76

During the year 656 live and still-births were assigned to the area, 44 per cent occurred in hospital and 56 per cent. at home, 11 cases of the latter being delivered in the presence of a doctor. There were no maternal deaths—16 still-births and 10 deaths in the first week of life.

Of the 6 County Midwives carrying out domiciliary midwifery in the district 4 own cars which they are authorised to use in the course of their official duties. All are trained in the use of and possess apparatus for gas and air analgesia. Fortyfive-and-a-half per cent. of domiciliary cases were given gas and air analgesia and 1.21 per cent. were given trilene.

(ii) *Domiciliary Nursing*

Six nurses made a total of 16,641 home visits during the year, 11,152—67.0 per cent. of which were made to patients over the age of 65 years. The following is an analysis of these visits and the types of cases nursed.

	AGE GROUPS			CLASSIFICATION						
	0—5 yrs.	5—65 yrs.	65+ yrs.	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuber- culosis	Maternal Complica- tions	Injections only	Others
New Cases	11	177	246	272	143	—	19	—	—	—
Visits	176	5,313	11,152	11,330	4,173	—	1,138	—	4,601	241

(c) Health Visitor Service

There are five Health Visitors in the Consett Urban District, the following domiciliary visits being made during the year :—

Maternity and Child Welfare	..	..	..	..	7,708
Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	..	1,109
Mental Deficiency ..	..	..	..	..	313
Schools ..	..	..	..	..	534
General Health ..	..	..	..	..	12
Aged People ..	..	..	..	..	241

(d) Ambulance Service

The needs of the Urban District are served jointly by the County ambulance depots situated at Villa Real, Consett and East Street, Stanley. Details of the establishment of personnel and vehicles are as follows :—

Head Driver	..	..	..	..	..	1
Driver Attendants ..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Ambulances ..	..	..	..	..	..	7

The Consett depot functions from 8 a.m.—8 p.m. Monday to Friday ; 8 a.m.—4 p.m. on Saturday and is closed on Sunday. The Stanley depot provides a 24-hour service, acting as a reception point for calls arising in the North West portion of the County and being responsible for the emergency service in the whole of the area besides having capacity to handle out-patients from the Stanley area attending hospitals for examination and treatment. Both depots function under the overall supervision of the Central Control at Durham, Stanley being linked by a direct telephone line. An additional measure of control is achieved by having radio installed on 1 vehicle at Consett and 3 vehicles at Stanley.

To further improve co-ordination in the area, a liaison officer is stationed at the Shotley Bridge Hospital.

The following table gives details of the work undertaken during the year 1959. While the bulk of the work at the Consett depot relates to patients residing in the urban district, the co-ordination of journeys results in a certain number of patients residing outside the area being included.

Journeys Undertaken	Cases carried			Mileage
	Stretcher	Sitting	Total	
3,530	2,299	16,108	18,407	117,675

(e) Prevention of Illness—Care and Aftercare

There are no voluntary District Care Committees, the Local Health Authority discharging the functions imposed by Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Those cases discharged from hospital and requiring further nursing are visited by the home nurse if necessary or supervised and advised by the Health Visitor if this should be requested. Nursing requisites can be hired from the Central Depot at Durham.

(f) Domestic Help Service

This service has been used more extensively during the year than previously.

Charges are made, the amount depending on the income of the household.

At the beginning of January, 1959, 265 cases in this district were being served by a Home Help. There were 35 new cases during the year and of the total of 300 receiving the service, 283 (94.3 per cent.) were old age pensioners ; 10 were suffering from sickness ; there were 6 maternity cases and 1 tuberculosis case.

(g) Mental Health Services

Occupation Centre for Mentally Handicapped Children

A wing of the former I.D. Hospital at Villa Real converted in June, 1953 has continued to be used for mentally defective children excluded from school under Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944. Eleven males up to the age of 16, 12 females under 21 and 4 females over 21 from the North West of Durham travel daily to this Centre. The Education Department have arranged from the outset provision of school meals and free milk for these pupils. A special 'bus collects pupils each morning and returns them to their homes each afternoon.

(h) Local Health Authority Hostel Accommodation

Admissions of those needing care and attention to local health authority hostels are arranged directly with the health department at Durham or after reference to the district health departments ; up-to-date waiting lists for this accommodation being held locally.

During the year the new hostel at Consett—Glenroyd House—was completed and opened in December. This hostel provides accommodation for 38 residents and was much needed in the area to prevent widespread scattering of cases admitted to hostels remote from their homes. During the year 22 old people were admitted to residential accommodation as follows :—

	Males	Females
Glenroyd House	10	10
Lee Hill Hospital (Part III)	1	1

Many more cases of old people in need of care and attention were referred to this department, but by arranging for the provision of home helps and home nursing services it was possible for them to remain in their own homes.

It was not necessary during the year to take action under Section 47, National Assistance Act, 1948-51 for compulsory removal of any old person.

(i) Welfare of Physically Handicapped

A Club run by and for the physically handicapped has continued to operate very successfully during the year. Meetings are held every

Tuesday in the Y.M.C.A. Hall and all handicapped persons are welcome. This is a service that is very much appreciated and enjoyed by all those who attend.

For some time the Council have been considering the housing needs of the physically handicapped and during the year plans were submitted and approved for the provision of 6 specially built houses. The County Council have agreed to contribute to the additional costs involved. I feel sure that when these houses are completed they will prove to be of great assistance to the families of physically handicapped persons.

(j) Chiropody Service for the Aged

During the year a chiropody service run by the Consett and District Old People's Welfare Committee was inaugurated.

There are now two centres operating in the area, one in Consett and one in Shotley Bridge, but there is a need for another centre. The difficulty in arranging this is that it has not been possible to find a qualified chiropodist to undertake the work.

This is one of the services of most benefit to older people as disabilities of the feet so often render the sufferer immobile to a degree out of all proportion to the seriousness of the condition. The demand for the service in this area shows that it is much appreciated and has been a great help to those old people who have received treatment.

C. Hospital and General Practitioners' Services in the Area

The Local Hospital Services are administered by the North-West Durham Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. The Secretary has kindly provided the following information on the Hospitals and Clinics serving this Area.

Maiden Law Hospital

At 31st December, 1959, the following number of beds were available:—

Ear, Nose and Throat	..	..	..	24
Chest Unit (Tuberculosis)	..	..	..	84
Total	..	..	..	<u>108</u>

Lee Hill Hospital

This Hospital with a complement of 307 beds (62 of which are used as Part III accommodation for the County Council) and a Medical Out-patients' Department, deals with the Chronic Sick and includes a section for Orthopaedic Tuberculosis cases.

Bed allocation is as follows :—

Orthopaedic	..	..	..	..	28
Mental	..	..	..	..	44
Chronic Sick	..	..	..	..	173
Part III Accommodation	..	..	..	..	62
Total	..	..	..	..	<u>307</u>

Shotley Bridge General Hospital

Out-patients facilities for all the Specialities exist at this Hospital.
The 533 beds are allocated as follows :—

Surgical	..	..	..	..	..	121
Medical	..	..	..	..	..	98
Gynaecological	..	..	..	..	..	43
Orthopaedic	..	..	..	..	..	45
Paediatrics	..	..	..	..	..	4
Thoracic Surgery	..	..	..	..	..	114
Radiotherapy	..	..	..	..	..	50
Plastic Surgery	..	..	..	..	..	58
Total	..	..	..	..	..	<u>533</u>

Richard Murray Hospital

There are 32 Obstetric beds at this Hospital.

Infectious Diseases Hospital

Patients in the Area suffering from infectious diseases were admitted to the Chester-le-Street Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Chest Clinic, Villa Real

This clinic, operating from the converted wing of the old Infectious Diseases Hospital, provides a full chest clinic service including screening, refills, B.C.G. vaccination and resettlement sessions as follows :—

Tuesday mornings—9.15 a.m. each week	Contacts of known cases of T.B.
Wednesday mornings—9.15 a.m. each week	—Males.
Wednesday afternoons—2 p.m. each week	Artificial Pneumo-thorax and
	Pneumo-peritoneum refill.
Friday mornings—9.15 a.m. each week	Females.
Friday afternoons—2 p.m. each week	Children up to 16 years of age
	and B.C.G. Vaccination.

Venereal Diseases

Treatment and diagnostic facilities are provided by Clinics outside the Area as follows :—

NEWCASTLE GENERAL HOSPITAL, WESTGATE ROAD, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.
Males and Females :—
Monday to Friday : 9 a.m. to 12 noon ; 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday : 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Sunday (Emergency only) : 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

DURHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL.

Females : Monday and Thursday : 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Males : Monday and Thursday : 4.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Executive Council Service

There are 17 general medical practitioners (8 being in a group practice), 7 chemists and 8 dentists operating in the urban district.

III. ANNUAL REPORT OF RAINFALL, ETC., 1959.

The Surveyor and Engineer has kindly provided me with the following information :—

Month (1959)	Rainfall in ins.		No. of days rain fell		Heaviest Daily Fall	
	West- wood	Crook- hall	West- wood	Crook- hall	Ins.	Date
January	2.66	2.74	12	18	.75	21st
February .. ..	.61	.60	3	2	.55	21st
March .. ..	.72	.85	11	11	.32	3rd
April	2.10	2.02	14	12	.45	25th
May .. ..	.52	.67	8	7	.36	19th
June	2.24	3.06	11	11	1.46	22nd
July	1.01	1.87	9	11	.70	29th
August .. ..	.39	.13	4	3	.33	12th
September .. ..	.91	1.15	6	6	.51	21st
October	1.80	1.32	13	14	.40	26th
November	5.12	4.75	21	20	.89	13th
December	5.01	4.21	25	25	.80	3rd
	23.09	23.37	137	140	—	—

The heaviest rainfall of 1959 was on the 22nd June, when 1.46 inches of rain fell, and the wettest month was November with 5.12 inches. The driest month was August with .13 inches of rain.

APPENDIX A

Year	Popu- lation	Deaths	Death Rate	Live Births	Birth Rate	Infan- tile Deaths	Infant Death Rate	Neo- Natal Deaths	Neo- Natal Death Rate	No. of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified.								Tuber- culosis	
										Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diph- theria	Polio- myeli- tis	Dysentery	Enteric	Food Poisoning	Pul.	Non Pul.
1937	37,280	448	12.0	677	18.1	48	70.9	—	—	—	147	—	180	—	3	—	—	29	24
1938	37,340	435	11.5	670	17.9	36	53.7	—	—	—	169	—	154	—	19	—	—	23	26
1939	37,420	453	12.1	705	18.8	51	72.3	—	—	6	54	34	73	—	—	3	—	35	14
1940	37,040	469	12.6	676	18.2	40	59.1	—	—	1,243	28	196	10	—	—	47	—	25	14
1941	37,040	409	11.0	639	17.2	42	66.9	—	—	376	47	120	18	—	—	—	—	26	13
1942	36,210	433	11.9	671	18.5	40	59.6	—	—	299	83	75	18	2	—	—	—	17	22
1943	35,320	432	12.2	602	17.0	28	46.5	—	—	291	62	72	29	—	—	—	—	31	12
1944	35,050	434	12.0	732	20.8	32	43.0	—	—	306	15	65	33	1	—	—	—	45	32
1945	35,310	435	12.3	694	19.6	34	48.9	—	—	117	48	11	13	—	—	—	—	34	20
1946	36,760	415	11.2	751	20.4	30	39.5	—	—	218	41	108	14	—	—	1	—	33	14
1947	37,040	415	11.2	780	21.0	28	35.8	—	—	385	64	29	1	7	—	—	2	43	16
1948	38,820	417	10.7	737	18.9	41	55.6	—	—	522	111	104	2	—	5	—	—	53	19
1949	38,900	463	11.9	708	18.2	29	40.9	17	24.01	142	52	19	1	—	—	—	—	40	9
1950	39,130	482	12.3	684	17.4	30	43.8	15	23.39	375	59	212	—	2	3	—	1	79	12
1951	39,020	435	11.1	659	16.8	23	34.9	17	25.79	740	24	85	—	—	5	—	1	62	14
1952	38,840	427	10.9	647	16.6	17	26.2	10	15.45	281	61	143	1	2	21	—	—	39	8
1953	38,740	413	10.6	650	16.7	20	30.76	10	15.38	332	45	244	—	2	13	255	—	32	8
1954	38,830	477	12.2	587	15.1	19	32.3	11	18.7	114	15	130	—	4	64	32	—	27	11
1955	38,770	419	10.8	627	16.1	19	30.3	12	19.1	771	14	23	—	—	33	23	—	21	5
1956	38,770	430	11.0	596	15.3	18	30.2	13	21.8	24	16	148	—	—	30	16	—	29	5
1957	38,780	436	11.2	644	16.6	14	21.7	11	17.0	997	41	45	—	3	—	3	—	24	6
1958	38,890	490	12.6	682	17.5	28	41.0	23	33.7	26	6	58	—	—	3	—	—	22	1
1959	38,940	423	10.8	640	16.4	18	28.1	14	21.8	832	22	108	—	—	81	3	—	16	4

APPENDIX B

ANALYSIS OF THE NOTIFIED AND CONFIRMED CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Name of Disease	Under 1 Year		1		2		3		4		5		6-10		11-15		16-20		21-35		36-45		46-65		66 and Over		Age not Known		Totals	
	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.	N.	C.
Scarlet Fever ..			1	1					2	2	5	5	12	12	1	1							1	1					22	22
Whooping Cough ..	4	4	7	7	16	16	15	15	18	18	25	25	21	21	1	1					1	1							108	108
Measles ..	31	31	88	88	108	108	107	107	126	126	179	179	185	185	7	7	1	1											832	832
Dysentery ..	2	1	2	3	5	6	2	3	6	8	4	5	20	28	3	4	2	2	16	7	3	4	9	6	6	4			80	81
Acute Pneumonia			1	1																			5	5					6	6
Food Poisoning	4	—	11	—	7	—	3	—	8	—	9	1	31	—	9	—	7	—	19	—	16	—	18	2	3	—			145	3
Erysipelas ..																									1	1			1	1
Meningococcal Infection ..																			1	1									1	1
Totals ..	41	36	110	100	136	130	127	125	160	154	222	215	269	246	21	13	10	3	36	8	20	5	33	14	10	5			1195	1054

APPENDIX C

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	Local Authority	Type of Property			Total
		Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	
I. No. of Properties in Local Authority's District	36	11,751	55	1,851	13,693
II. No. of Properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1959, as a result of :—					
(a) Notification ..	4	49	3	28	84
(b) Otherwise ..	82	233	30	320	665
III. No. of Properties (under II) found to be infested by rats	8	49	3	20	80
IV. No. of Properties (under II) found to be infested by mice	4	32	—	16	52
V. No. of Infested Properties (under III and IV) treated by Local Authority ..	12	81	3	36	132
VI. No. of informal notices served under Section 4 :—					
(1) Treatment ..	—	14	3	7	24
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing) ..	—	—	2	6	8
VII No. of visits made by Local Authority during treatment and inspection of Properties	98	370	66	403	937

APPENDIX D

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949 SEWERS AND SEWAGE WORKS

Date of Sewer Campaign	No. of Manholes treated	Showing Signs of infestation	No. infestation
April, 1959	151	19	132
November, 1959	58	16	42
Sewage Works and Buildings treated in conjunction with Sewer Campaign		Showing signs of infestation	
April, 1959			
Pont		Minor	
Knitsley		—	
Crookhall		Minor	
Ebchester		Minor	
Hamsterley Pump House		—	
November, 1959			
Pont		Minor	
Knitsley		—	
Crookhall		Minor	
Ebchester		Minor	
Hamsterley Pump House		—	

APPENDIX E

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

I — INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	23	15	9	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	105	123	11	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	29	13	—	—
Total	157	151	20	—

II — Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadquate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	1	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	7	—	6	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	11	9	—	8	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecu- tions (7)
Wearing apparel { Making etc., Cleaning and Washing	2	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	2	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX F

Premises	Structural		Cleansing and Re-decoration		Water Closets		W.C. Notices		Lack of Refuse Containers		Drainage		Wash-up Sinks		Wash-hand Basins		Towels, Nailbrush and Soap		Clothing Accommodation		First Aid Equipment		Smoking		Constant Hot Water		Food Exposure		Other Defects		Visits	
	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A	F	A
Bakehouses	—	—	8	5	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	6	5	43	—
Food Manufacturers	7	5	24	20	2	2	1	1	—	—	11	9	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	2	2	1	1	5	5	—	—	140	—
Fried Fish Shops and Wet Fish Shops	2	2	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	4	—	—	26	—
Ice Cream Manufacturers	1	1	12	12	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	1	1	6	6	—	—	60	—
Caterers and Snack Bars	1	1	4	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	1	—	26	—
Grocers and General Dealers	4	2	11	8	3	3	4	4	1	1	9	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	18	18	1	—	185	—
Confectioners	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	2	2	2	5	5	—	—	47	—
Greengrocers	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—
Hotels, Inns and Public Houses	19	7	24	11	7	4	—	—	1	1	30	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	6	115	—
Total	34	18	87	63	15	12	8	8	9	9	57	40	3	3	2	2	4	4	4	4	2	2	10	10	11	11	47	47	28	11	657	—

*F—Defects Found
A—Defects Abated

Defects Found—321
Defects Abated—244

Informal Notices Served—93

APPENDIX G

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) ..	1,842	15	14	5,986	2,289	—
No. Inspected	1,842	15	14	5,986	2,289	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCI						
Whole Carcases Condemned ..	—	1	1	5	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was Condemned ..	160	1	—	25	46	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- eases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	8.68	13.3	7.14	0.5	2.01	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole Carcases Condemned ..	3	—	1	1	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	76	1	—	2	37	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- culosis	4.28	6.67	7.14	0.05	1.71	—
CYSTICERCOSIS						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	8	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally Con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—

